

Federal agencies and wholly or partially government-owned corporations for which the Treasury acts as the transfer agent.

(p) *Unauthorized indorsement* means:

(1) An indorsement made by a person other than the payee, except as authorized by and in accordance with § 204.5 and §§ 240.11 through 240.15;

(2) An indorsement by a financial institution under circumstances in which the financial institution breaches the guaranty required of it by 31 CFR 209.9(a) (*See*, 31 CFR 209.8); or

(3) A missing indorsement where the depository bank had no authority to supply the indorsement.

§ 240.3 Limitations on payment.

(a) As a general rule,

(1) The Commissioner shall not be required to pay a Treasury check issued on or after October 1, 1989 unless it is negotiated to a financial institution within 12 months after the date on which the check was issued; and

(2) The Commissioner shall not be required to pay a Treasury check issued before October 1, 1989 unless it is negotiated to a financial institution no later than October 1, 1990.

(b) All checks drawn on the United States Treasury and issued on or after October 1, 1989 shall bear a legend, stating "Void After One Year." The legend is notice to payees and indorsers of a general limitation on the payment of Treasury checks. The legend, or the inadvertent lack thereof, does not limit, or otherwise affect, the rights of the Commissioner under the law.

(c) The Treasury shall have the usual right of a drawee to examine checks presented for payment and refuse payment of any checks. The Treasury shall have a reasonable time to make such examination.

(d) Checks shall be deemed to be paid by the United States Treasury only after first examination has been fully completed.

(e) If the Treasury is on notice of a question of law or fact about whether a Treasury check is properly payable when the check is presented for payment, the Commissioner may defer payment until the Comptroller General settles the question.

§ 240.4 Cancellation and distribution of proceeds of checks.

(a) *Checks issued on or after October 1, 1989.* (1) Any check issued on or after October 1, 1989 that has not been paid and remains outstanding for more than 12 months shall be cancelled by the Commissioner.

(2) The proceeds from checks cancelled pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be returned to the agency which authorized the issuance of the check and credited to the appropriation or fund account initially charged for the payment.

(3) Beginning January 1, 1991, and monthly thereafter, the Commissioner shall provide to each agency that authorizes the issuance of Treasury checks a list of those checks issued for such agency which were cancelled during the preceding month pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

(b) *Checks issued before October 1, 1989.* (1) Any check issued before October 1, 1989 that has not been paid and remains outstanding for more than 12 months shall be cancelled by the Commissioner no later than April 1, 1991.

(2) The proceeds from checks cancelled pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall be applied as required by 31 U.S.C. 3334.

§ 240.5 Guaranty of indorsements.

The presenting bank and the indorsers of a check presented to the Treasury for payment are deemed to guarantee to the Treasury that all prior indorsements are genuine, whether or not an express guaranty is placed on the check. When the first indorsement has been made by one other than the payee personally, the presenting bank and the indorsers are deemed to guarantee the Treasury, in addition to other warranties, that the person who so indorsed had unqualified capacity and authority to indorse the check on behalf of the payee.

§ 240.6 Reclamation of amounts of paid checks.

(a) If, after a check has been paid by Treasury, it is found to:

(1) Bear a forged or unauthorized indorsement; or

(2) Contain any other material defect or alteration which was not discovered